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OLDEST AGRICULTURAL PUBLICATION IN THE STATE.

# The Maryland Farmer.

A Weekly for the Farmer, Fruit-Grower & Stock-Raiser.

Vol. XXVII.

BALTIMORE, November 21, 1890.

No. 47.

SLINGLUFF & CO., Proprietors.

E. B. WHITMAN, Gen'l Manager

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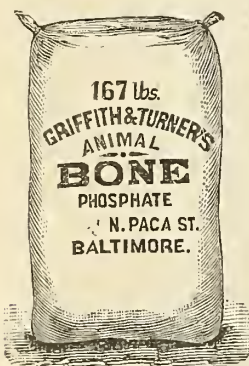
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# The Maryland Farmer.

Vol. XXVII.

BALTIMORE, November 21, 1890.

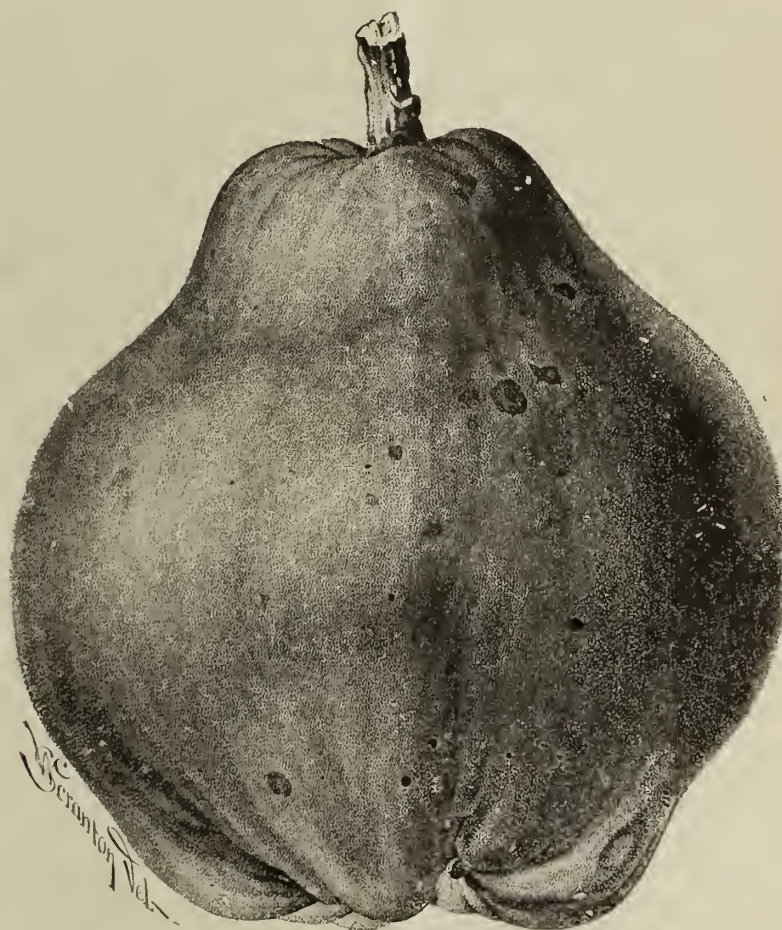
No. 47.

## QUINCES.

Among the very profitable fruits to which too little attention is generally given is the quince. Quinces will always bring a good price in the market and often very extravagant figures are obtained for them. Usually, the quinces brought to market are wormy, knotted and deformed, but if care is taken and large fair fruit obtained, you will have only to name your price. They have often sold for two dollars

Good, clean land is needed in a high state of cultivation, strong rich loam well drained; such land as is required for large pear and celery culture. Ground bone and wood ashes, are an excellent dressing, spread over the ground in the fall at the rate of 1,000 pounds to the acre.

The trees should be planted about eight feet apart and the space between may be used for growing strawberries or low



and a half a hundred, and are now retailing at four and five dollars per bushel.

The borers which infest quinces more than any other fruit, may be kept out by not allowing the bushes to branch out too near the ground, but should be pruned up like a tree so that one can easily get around them to cut out the borers, and to kill all grass and weeds that spring up. Quinces will not bear neglect, and if they cannot be attended to after being planted they had better not be started.

growing vegetables for the first year or two. Plenty of manure should be used on the ground yearly. Among the best varieties of quince, the one most well known in northern markets is the old orange variety. The cut on this page represents the Champion, a comparatively new variety, which gives promise of being an improvement. It is said to be free from the hard spots often found in the old varieties. We are indebted to the *Massachusetts Ploughman* for our excellent illustration.



# THE MARYLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE AGRICULTURAL,  
HORTICULTURAL AND STOCK-RAISING INTERESTS.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21st, 1890.

## SKILL COUNTS IN FARMING.

At a farmers' convention in Ontario, Prof. Jas. W. Robertson presented the following few points that are worthy of careful study: When a man sells anything that he farms, he sells a threefold commodity—material, labor and the strength of the old sun. When a man sells wheat to the amount of 200 bushels, he sells away \$48 worth of material from his farm that is taken from his soil. When he sells it for \$1.00 per bushel, he has \$152 for labor and skill. When he grows ten bushels of wheat to the acre he has to cultivate twenty acres. He has \$152 for the rent, the taxes, seed and other expenses; and the balance is for labor and skill. Figure it out, and you will find that he has thirty cents a day for himself. That is not the price of skilled labor. If he puts skill into the soil by putting his manure there and cultivates properly, he may have thirty bushels to the acre. I know a man who in 1888 had thirty-two bushels to the acre, weighing sixty-six pounds, whereas his neighbor had nineteen on better land, and this vast difference is traceable to the fact that his neighbor did not put skill into the soil. When a man sells hogs that weigh 250 pounds at twelve months of age, he is not putting skill into the business. The hogs have been boarded on him too long. If a man keeps the wrong kind of a hog, whose main occupation is to move around the front yard and furnish music for the family at dinner time, he is not selling skill in that way; he is trying to sell squeal, and squeal is unmarketable. It is very much harder to sell skill than to sell material, but only the things that are hard to do are worth doing, so that every man in dairy farming who sells his skill through these avenues, will not only benefit his land and enrich his pocket, but he will make himself a more skillful man, and the man who does that through dairying will have the highest reward.

## EDITORIAL.

### A LIBERAL OFFER.

It is our intention to furnish a journal that shall be up with the times in every respect. To do this, however, we must receive the support of the farmers of the State. With a view to awakening interest in the paper at once, and arousing the people to look into what we believe to be a good thing, we offer to subscribers now the paper until January 1, 1892, together with a treatise on the horse, by Dr. Kendall, and a beautiful engraving,—all for one dollar. The premiums are being taken up very rapidly, and as our supply of them is limited, those who wish them should subscribe at once.

### SECRETARY RUSK'S REPORT.

The Secretary of Agriculture, in his annual report to the President, made last week, takes a decidedly optimistic view of the agricultural situation. He shows that the prices of a number of staple products are considerably higher in Chicago now than they were a year ago, and attributes the rise in prices to the silver legislation and the McKinley bill. About the only staples that have shown any appreciable advance in price are the cereals, and anybody who has paid the slightest attention to these matters knows that this state of affairs has been brought about by causes entirely distinct from the effects of the silver legislation or the tariff.

If the Secretary had compared the price of wheat at about this time in 1888, with the price now, he would have found that wheat was higher in Chicago then than now. Speculation forced up the price of wheat, in the latter part of 1888, to about \$1.20 per bushel. The natural reaction from those inflated prices, and the failure of the wheat deal, carried wheat and other cereals, in 1889, down below their proper level, oats and corn touching the lowest prices on record. A partial crop failure in the last year or two has brought prices up out of the unnatural depths into which they had sunk, and restored them to their normal condition. Natural causes alone, and not legislation, are responsible for the advance in prices.

In the most charmingly illogical manner, the Secretary discusses the benefits which the farmers receive from the new tariff. In his report he says:—

"In my last report I ventured to appeal most earnestly for a larger measure of tariff protection for the farming industry. 'For all such articles as our own soil will produce, the farmer justly asks that protection which will insure to him all the benefits of our home market.' Such was the language with which I concluded my appeal on his behalf. I am thankful to say that it has been in a very large measure heeded; and, admitting to the fullest extent the place to which natural causes are entitled in assigning reasons for the higher prices now prevailing for agricultural products, it is impossible not to see the beneficial influence of the tariff protection awarded to the farmer under the present law. A comparison of the duties under the present law on some of the agricultural products heretofore imported in considerable amounts with the rates of duty imposed on them under the old law, will illustrate this in a striking manner."

This protection to the farmer is the most comical thing about the whole tariff business. Against whom and what do the farmers of this country need protection? Where is the nation or people who can import wheat or cattle into this



country so as to influence the market of our own producers? On the contrary, we send our products across the water, and outsell all competitors in the broad markets of the world. It does not take a very brilliant intellect to see that, even if the duties on the products mentioned by the Secretary were raised a thousand per cent, our people would not be benefited a single sou.

Almost in the same breath, the Secretary refutes his position, and gives the best possible proof that protection to farm products is a humbug, when he says:

"A very large increase is shown in the export trade in beef and hog products, while in dairy products the export trade in butter was especially gratifying, the figures for 1889 being 15,504,968, and in 1890, 29,748,042. The increase in the value of meat and dairy products exported between 1889 and 1890 was over \$34,000,000. *At a time when our domestic markets are overcrowded with animals and their products, this increase in the export trade is very encouraging.*"

This does not look very much as if our farmers needed a tariff to keep out foreign competition. But the Secretary does not say anything about the other side of the tariff, that, while duties have been laid on farm products which do not benefit the farmer a single cent, everything that the farmer wears, or uses, or in any way enters into the farm economy, has been raised in price from 25 to 40 per cent. This protection to farm products was truly a sop to Cerberus. If Uncle Jerry wishes to fully mature those "tender leaves of hope" with regard to 1892, which report says he is now putting forth, he must take a broader view of the intelligence of that great body of voters, represented by the agricultural community.

Apart from the political buncombe which the Secretary indulges in, the report is very instructive, and full of valuable suggestions. Attention is called to the increased export trade in cattle and animal products, which Mr. Rusk traces to the energetic and effective measures adopted for the eradication of pleuro-pneumonia, and to the growing appreciation, at home and abroad, of the department's ability to suppress or effectually control contagious animal diseases. The outlook for a home sugar industry is considered favorable, the Secretary predicting that in the near future, half of our sugar can be supplied from the beet root industry.

Reference is made to the forthcoming transfer of the weather bureau to the Department of Agriculture, with a declaration of the Secretary's desire to widen the scope of the bureau, so as to increase its benefits to agriculture.

The possibility of serving the corn growers by extending the market for Indian corn in foreign countries, has engaged the Secretary's attention, with the result that he has appointed a special agent abroad, to investigate and report upon the possibilities of promoting the consumption of Indian corn in foreign lands. Mr. Rusk recommends that the United States be better represented at the great international agricultural gatherings. The Secretary ends by declaring that he looks forward with confidence "to the time when, in the high quality of its work, as well as in the magnitude of its enterprise, the agriculture of the United States shall not only lead all other industries in this country, but shall be the leader of this great industry of all other countries."

THE third annual convention of American Agricultural Colleges and Experimental Stations has been in session at Champaign, Ill., this week. Delegates were in attendance from colleges and experimental stations from all the states and territories except three of the Pacific Coast states. Reports were read on Chemistry by C. W. Dabney, of Tennessee; on Entomology, by S. H. Forbes, of the University of Illinois and State Entomologist; on Horticulture, by W. B. Greene, of Ohio. Prof. Harris, from the Department of Agriculture, Washington, outlined the plan of an exhibition of the state experimental stations at the World's Fair. Reform in vegetable nomenclature was indorsed. One department of the convention was composed of the presidents and trustees of the land grant colleges, and twenty-eight states were represented in a meeting of this department. The chief topic considered was the new obligations of the agricultural and mechanical colleges under recent acts of Congress, which adds to their endowment a liberal grant from the federal treasury. The new act was unanimously endorsed. The representatives from the South were also favorably disposed toward the feature of the act insuring the negroes an equitable share in its benefits.

THE Gardeners' Club of Baltimore gave its annual exhibition last week. It proved to be the most successful in every way that the club has ever held. The leading attraction was the Chrysanthemum Show. The display in this specialty was magnificent, and reflected great credit on our Maryland growers. The flowers shown by John Donn, William Fraser and Henry Bauer could not be surpassed anywhere in the land and well illustrated the high state of perfection to which Chrysanthemum growing has been brought. Some of this year's seedlings, shown by E. A. Seidewitz, of Annapolis, were especially fine, and attracted much attention. The climate of our State seems to be peculiarly adapted to the perfection of autumn's loveliest flower, and our growers seem to be making an intelligent use of that fact.

THE *Century* is about the most popular and progressive magazine of the day. Its war articles were a happy conception and took mightily with the general reading public. A series of articles has now been commenced, which promises to rival in interest the war stories. The new series will deal with the adventures of the early California gold hunters, the "Argonauts." The articles are to be beautifully and profusely illustrated, and, judging from the November number, will prove very fascinating to the readers of popular literature.

OUR flower page this week is illustrated by a Chrysanthemum cut. We believe these illustrations are appreciated by our readers, and they may depend upon us to furnish the best possible. We are under obligations to Robert Halliday, the florist, for our Chrysanthemum cut.

#### OLD SUBSCRIBERS.

*Editor Maryland Farmer:*

Are old subscribers who pay up arrears and a year in advance entitled to a premium? ONE OF THEM.

Yes, we are willing to extend to all old subscribers who pay up arrears and a year in advance, our premium offers.



## THE CARE OF STOCK IN WINTER.

The approach of cold weather suggests a few reflections upon the proper care of stock in winter. In a climate like that of Maryland, there is more danger to cattle and horses from throat diseases and pleuro-pneumonia than in the more vigorous north. During a greater part of the year, stock can roam the pastures, sleep beneath the spreading trees, feed in a state of nature, and suffer no harm. But this very salubrity of climate leads the farmer into a sort of negligence in preparing suitable shelter and stable-room for valuable cows, young cattle and horses. As a consequence, the rough storms of November, the cold blasts of December, and the changeable weather of the winter find everything unprepared in the way of comfortable barns or stalls.

This, of course, is all wrong, if the farmer expects to succeed as a stock raiser. Or even if horses and cows are kept only for private use, it is still a dangerous and expensive method to pursue. Many a good farm horse and many a family cow has been ruined or killed by a night's exposure to the pitiless wind and rain. Chilled through by the cold, they were driven up to the barn next morning to be fed, but were never healthy again after that excessive drain upon the system to keep off the rigors of the autumn storm.

The first desideratum in the care of stock we believe to be a warm, well ventilated barn. It need not be a large or very expensive structure; but it needs a roof upon it that will shed rain, and siding that will keep out drafts and flying snow. Moreover, it should be built upon dry ground and well under-pinned by mason work, so as to be dry and wholesome inside. The floors should be of good materials, and the stables roomy and warm. Provision should be made for draining the stalls, and it is always well to keep some kind of absorbents in the stables, like manure, saw-dust or dry earth to take up the liquids and to act as conservers of the fertilizing principle contained therein.

Such a barn and such arrangements for protecting stock is as essential to correct farming as a shirt is to the dress of a gentleman. He may be able to get along without it, but it is a great inconvenience and source of anxiety to do so. Besides, everybody knows the horrors of wearing a ragged shirt, as everyone ought to know the uselessness of a dilapidated barn.

A moment's reflection upon the physical constitution of farm animals will convince any intelligent man of two very important things. One is that exposure to storms without and chilling drafts within are fatal to the health of a cow or horse as they are to a man. Another is that excessive warmth, foul air and close quarters are the simple seed ground of all forms of pulmonary disorders. The former conditions continually reduce the circulation, weaken the system and destroy health. The latter conditions dry the skin, open the pores and put the animal into a state where exposure even to a moderately cold atmosphere means disease.

Hence, we believe that all artificial warmth should be excluded. If stables are dry and sufficiently tight to keep out the winds, it is a bad practice even to blanket horses as a regular thing. All these animals need cold, bracing air in winter and an atmosphere that is frequently changed by

proper ventilation. Barns and stables of temperate warmth are the ideal, and any departure in either direction is perilous and expensive.

All these deductions are founded upon the general laws of hygiene, and should be suggested to the intelligent farmer by his inherent common sense. He is an animal himself and the conditions essential to his own comfort and well-being are similar to those required by the horse, cow, sheep and pig. In a word, one's own costly experience in the climate of Maryland might be a safe guide in providing for the proper housing of stock in winter.

As to feeding, little need be said. Hay and cereals, with a moderate use of roots, are the proper food for domestic animals in cold weather. These should be of good quality, well grown, well refined and well cured. The quality being the best circumstances will allow, the quantity must be decided by the capacity of the animal to assimilate food, and the farmer's judgment. Over-feeding is dangerous, and does not usually result in fattening the animal, but rather in impairing digestion, and rendering the horse or cow incapable of service. In the latter it is shown in the decreased flow of milk, and its deterioration in quality.

The winter care of stock, in short, ought to proceed upon a general knowledge of animal anatomy and hygiene. It is not necessary to be up in all the fancy nomenclature of the veterinary surgeon, but the farmer may know and should know the organic and structural distinctions between the cow and the horse, or between the mule and the hog. This knowledge, fortified by general facts regarding the bodily temperature, circulation, and assimilation of animals, will enable the farmer to make no serious mistakes as to the proper protection and feeding of stock in winter. But without it, he is left to blind luck and experiment which may or may not result in his favor. This, we take it, is one of the directions in which scientific farming pays.

## GREEN PEAS.

Shipping green peas to Northern markets in the Fall of the year from this point is comparatively a new wrinkle. Our truckers, not satisfied with sending up mountains of green stuff all through the Spring and Summer months, are now sending up green peas and other tender vegetables in the Fall months of October and November. Mr. John L. Babcock, (P. O. address, Norfolk, Va.,) one of our "Bay shore" truckers, shipped green peas to New York this week at \$2.50 per basket (bushel). His shipment was 75 baskets. He has a large quantity coming on to send yet. Last year he made his last shipment for the season on the seventh day of December, for which he received \$4 per basket (bushel).

The fact is the trucking business is yet capable of great development. The Fall grown pea is especially tender, juicy and palatable. It tickles the palates of the New Yorkers immensely. Mr. Babcock is one of our thriving energetic go-ahead truckers who are continually improving upon *old* and adopting *new* methods. We have a large number of such here and the number is steadily increasing.

Green peas in the open air in October, November and December. What do our Northern friend think of that? It speaks volumes for our climate.—*Cornicopia, Norfolk, Va.*



## Alliance Page.

While this journal is not an official organ, of the Farmers' Alliance, it is in entire sympathy with that movement and heartily believes in a thorough and systematic organization among farmers to protect their interests. In this column, Alliance news will be presented, and matters akin to that movement discussed. Correspondence is cordially invited.

HARD times are impossible so long as plenty of good crops are produced in the country, is the opinion of editor F. W. Meyer, in the *Pioneer*. We plainly see that the present financial depression is not caused by the hard times, but is caused by oppression. This oppression is caused by adverse legislation, and this adverse legislation is caused by soulless corporations and a few money bags.

PEOPLE can say what they will, remarks the Chicago *American Farmer*, but the Farmers' Alliance has proved to be one of the greatest schools of political economy ever known, and is doing more to get people to thinking for themselves than any other society in existence. Go where you may, you will find the people talking intelligently upon subjects they were wholly ignorant of two years ago.

THE Indiana Farmers' Alliance and industrial union will hold their annual session at Indianapolis on Nov. 20-21. The Alliance is getting quite strong in the Hoosier State, and is cutting quite a figure in local politics. As a result farmers will take a hand in legislation the coming session of the Legislature and, as they will possibly hold the balance of power, it is not at all unlikely that a farmer will be sent to the United States Senate. A good farmer or two in that body would no doubt have a healthy influence.

THE Farmers' Alliance in Ohio has had an enormous growth since the last State meeting in January, 1889. At that time there were eighteen subordinate Alliances in the State and less than 400 members. Now there are 578 subordinates and more than 25,000 members, and the work is going on without any symptoms of flagging. The people are aroused to the necessity of action and the day when farmers, laborers and mechanics—wealth makers—are to be free socially, financially and politically, is at hand. God speed the time.—*Miller Purvis, Lecturer.*

A special to the *New York Herald* from Washington says: "The spectre of the Farmers' Alliance overshadows all other political considerations here. Clever politicians estimate the vote polled by that organization in the recent election at not less than 2,500,000. The Alliance people themselves are saying nothing that can be construed as an indication of their future purposes. The expectation is that their party will increase so rapidly during the next two years that their voting strength in 1892 will not fall much, if any,

short of 5,000,000. In that event they will undoubtedly place a Presidential ticket in the field, with a moral certainty of carrying half a dozen Southern and Western States. Already they are claiming all the agricultural States in '92.

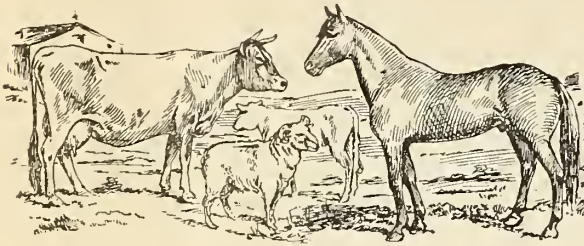
MR. L. L. POLK, president of the National Farmers' Alliance, is very jubilant over the result of the elections. In the course of an interview he said: "The Democrats and Republicans are claiming everything just now, but when they come to sift the chaff from the wheat they will find the Farmers' Alliance had something to do with electing a fair proportion of the good men who will have seats in the next Congress. Up to the present time it is a certainty that that Congress will contain thirty-eight straight out Alliance men, and there are twelve or fifteen more who are pledged to us. These men are from the South and Northwest, the two sections in which most of our work was done. The Alliance in Nebraska, Minnesota and Iowa is not our organization, has not amalgamated with us, but it made the same fight and will join us this winter. Our Alliance co-operated with them, we will co operate with any farmers' association, and in a little while have a grip on the situation in almost every corner of the land. We are here to stay. This great reform movement will not cease until it has impressed itself indelibly in the nation's history. Financial reform is the necessity of the hour and it must come. The press and the voice of the stump speaker were our only assistants. The Alliance had no campaign fund, no boodle. If we had had money we would not have used it. The virtue and the patriotism of the people are things to appeal to. Our methods were fair and square, and the whole world could see what we are doing. The principles on which the Alliance is founded are solid and correct; we must succeed."

### HEW TO THE LINE.

The farmers' league is the new line that is being stretched over the country straight across the two old political platforms, marking where it is going to be snapped and where the farmers are going to hew through to the heart of the sound planks, chipping away the worm-eaten timber and rubbish that has been growing out of the cracks of long years of tramping of the self-made political bosses. The honesty, industry, prudence and economy of the farmer is in open revolt against the society-made political hypocrite who roosts on the railings of our halls of legislation, halls of justice and home caucus assemblies, nominating himself and working the wires that run through all branches of business—business of the people which he knows only by hearsay, and cares for only for the pelf of office. Political jobbery, political scheming, political robbery is festering in the land, throwing up a rank growth of political bummers. It is time the farmers got hold of the broad ax and when they hew out a sound plank for their platform, put a sound man on top of it, no matter whether he came from college or a corn field. It is principally industry, honesty and economy the farmer wants exemplified in his representative. He wants those sterling qualifications that form the ground work of all true progress, which have stood the test and shock of war and peace.—*W. D. Cowles.*



## Stock Raisers' Column.



This column will be devoted to the interests of breeders and stock raisers, and especial attention will be paid to matters pertaining to the breeding and development of light harness and trotting horses. Correspondence is invited.

### TURF NOTES.

GOLDSMITH Maid was six years old before she was trained, Prince Wilkes was four, and the best wearing trotters and pacers were not asked to show extreme speed before they were six or seven. It pays to wait and not hurry the colts. Go a little slow with the youngsters and you will reap more money in the end.

SAYS the *Breeders' Gazette*: "That there is a future in America for the importation and breeding of high-class draft sires is as certain as the succession of the seasons; the handler of inferior horses will find it hard sledding from now on."

GEORGE Wilkes has had one addition to the 2.30 list this season, which makes his total 70. Electioneer has now 62, Happy Medium 60, and Nutwood 54. As George Wilkes has about stopped, in the natural course of events, it is probable that he will be passed in the race in 1891.

### STOCK ITEMS.

A DAIRYMAN who thought his cow did not pay for her feed, put her in a stall and began feeding her for the butcher, says an exchange. He kept on milking her because he did not like to lose the little milk she gave. Very soon the cow improved so much in milk that he gave her more feed, and in return she gave more milk, and so the cow kept on until before she was fat enough to kill, she had made more butter than her meat would have been worth. There are a good many cows of this kind if their owners only knew it.

PUNCTUALITY in milking hours, says the *Indiana Farmer*, is of the utmost importance and for best results is quite as essential as regularity in feeding. The time for morning and evening milking should be divided as equally as the season of the year will permit and the hours selected be adhered to rigidly. A strict observance of this rule will result—all other things being in accord—in a constant, even flow during the entire milking term and increased profit will be the reward. Too little attention is given to this feature on the dairy farm. The cows are milked, especially in busy seasons, at any time most convenient after other work is at-

tended to; this is invariably attended with loss and causes a shrinkage in milk that is not easily regained. Method and system both in milking and feeding must be carefully observed to secure the highest measures of return from the cows, and upon the faithful performance of these duties, depend in a high degree the success or failure of the business.

It is said that pink eye, a disease which, while it seldom results fatally, is much dreaded by owners of horses and mules, has made its appearance in Louisiana, particularly in the neighborhood of New Orleans. It is hoped that it will not spread to such an extent as to damage business interests. One stable in which there are thirty-seven mules has been invaded by it, and it is making a run through a large livery and boarding stable in which many fine driving horses are located. All the animals that have been attacked by it thus far are coming around nicely, and none of them have been very seriously affected, a fact which gives good ground for the belief that at the time it is a very mild type of the disease that has made its appearance in the city. A well known veterinary surgeon thus describes the symptoms and characteristics of pink eye and the best mode of treatment: "The horse at first has considerable fever and the legs begin to swell. The eyes become red and run freely. The patient coughs frequently, and walks with a zigzag motion of the hind legs. Pink eye is a disease of the blood, and may localize in the head, bowels, feet or legs. In the first period a tablespoonful of quinine should be administered three times a day, but should the case not yield to this treatment a veterinary surgeon should be consulted, as the further treatment ought to be determined by the peculiar character and localization of the ailment. In France this disease is called typhoid fever of the horse; in this country it is termed typhoid pneumonia."

Hog cholera is still doing havoc in various parts of Kent county. Many of our farmers who have had any experience with the disease say it is almost impossible to cure it when it once gets a hold on swine. If there is no cure there is perhaps a preventative as D. W. Hartwell says it is just as easy to feed to prevent cholera as it is to produce it. There is no doubt a great deal in the feeding of hogs as in the feeding of anything else and perhaps our farmers have not given it the study they ought. To keep swine healthy we must feed for that purpose. We must keep the blood cool, instead of feverish. Mr. Hartwell further says, "I find that feeding entirely on sweet feed is not the best for the health of swine. It causes feverishness and thickening of the blood and is constipating when swine are subject to cholera. It is also apt to produce worms, which I find kill three-fourths of the swine that die with the so-called hog cholera. I have fed and produced the so called hog cholera in three different stages, so I can safely say that I know what will produce it. I would feed to prevent it in this way: Feed a mixture of ground oats, bran and middlings. Prepare to-day what you feed to-morrow. The system of swine requires a swill that has acid in it. Vinegar is not healthy for swine, but swill that has formed a lactic acid is healthy for the growing shoat. Sugar is all right when you want to thicken the blood to get your swine ready for market."—*Kent News*.



## SWINE BREEDING.

The abundant and cheap production of Indian corn is the controlling factor in pork production in the United States. Thus the seven great corn-producing States are estimated to have, in round numbers, 20,800,000 hogs, or almost half the total number, and an average of nearly 3,000,000 for each State. Their respective rank is, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Ohio, Kansas, Indiana and Nebraska.

The rapidity with which swine increase, the early age at which they may be profitably sent to market, the ease with which the meat may be preserved for future use, and the large use made of the fat, as also the abundance of maize so well adapted as a fattening food, have made swine-breeding popular in all the great corn-growing regions, while the readiness with which one or more pigs may be utilized as profitable means of consuming waste products from the

is also noticeable that swine of the dark-colored breeds far outnumber those white in color.

The breed most generally found on the farms in the great hog-rearing States is the Poland-China—a name somewhat inappropriately given to a breed originating in southwestern Ohio as the product of crossing hogs of various breeds, among which are hogs imported from China, and, in the opinion of a minority, some brought from Poland. The Berkshire was used at different times. Whatever its exact origin, the Poland-China has now marked uniformity. It is almost entirely black in color, although there is little prejudice against white spots on any part of the body. The ear droops at the side of a moderately dished face. The body is deep, legs short. The disposition is noticeably quiet. While reaching great size at maturity—weights of 1,000 pounds not being unknown—the young pigs of this breed are readily made fit for market.

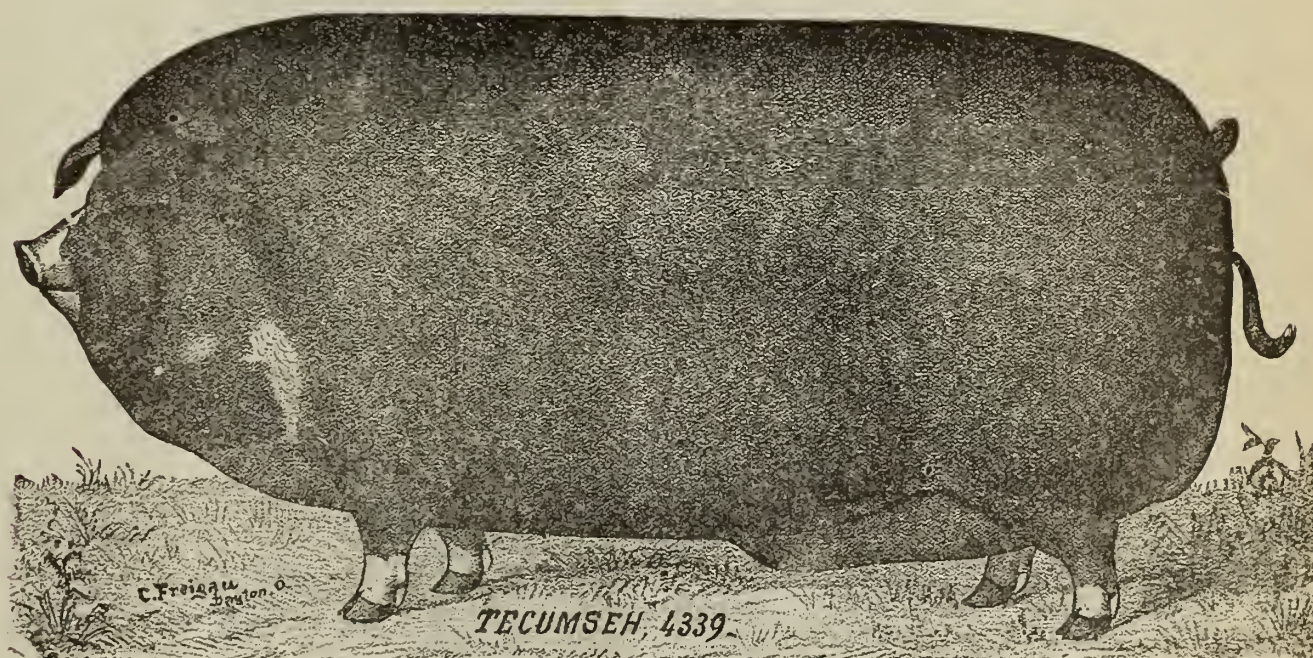


table and dairy have caused farmers and many village residents in almost every part of the country to annually fatten at least a few pigs. Much attention has been given to the improvement of the hogs of the country, and it is believed those of no other country surpass the best in the United States.

There is a large number of distinct breeds, but several of these closely resemble each other, except in comparatively unimportant characteristics, and there is a noticeable tendency in the most popular breeds toward greater similarity. Early maturity, medium to large size, quiet disposition; and the ability to lay on flesh rapidly, even at an early age, are the qualities chiefly desired. No breed not above a fair medium size is in general favor in the great pork-producing regions, although several of the smaller breeds are highly prized for village pigs or on farms where but few swine are kept. It

A HOG is a hog, writes a correspondent. That is true, whether he has two legs or four. But our correspondent uses the expression by way of proving or attempting to, that a hog delights in filth. Well, if that is true, then it is the duty of the hog's owner to keep it out of the filth. But just try once giving the animal clean quarters and clean food, and see if it will not leave filthy quarters for the former and filthy food for the latter.

THERE never was a time when so many pigs and shoats were being sacrificed as now, says a contemporary. Why? There probably never were so many of them in the country before; pigs are more susceptible to disease than old hogs; owners in many places have healthy pigs with sickness in the neighborhood, and are afraid to risk feeding them high-priced corn on present prospects.

Because an old sow may have been a good one once, it does not follow that she is so now. Weed out and breed only from animals in their prime.



## CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

The Chrysanthemum is steadily growing in popularity. Coming as it does at a time when other flowers have ceased to bloom, it is peculiarly welcome. The culture of Chrysanthemums is very simple. Select strong, soft shoots for cuttings, give plenty of room for the roots and keep well-watered. After the buds are set, encourage with liquid manure. After the plants have done flowering, they should be cut down to about a foot from the ground and put in some cool place or a well-ventilated frame.

In January the offshoots from below the ground, and also from the stems or branches, will be from four to six inches

twelve inches are large enough to grow the best plants; if in benches or boxes, four inches of depth will suffice for the roots. Then comes the fixing of the plant to a neat stake, and tying it firmly; meanwhile, pinching and pruning should not be neglected. The last pinching is done at the end of July, and the ground shoots are not allowed to grow, in order that the whole strength should go into the main stem. When the buds are well set, liquid manure should be freely given, and attention should be paid to the disbudding, as by leaving one bud to each twig you will have finer flowers than if all were allowed to remain, and the plants will also look better with fifty perfect blooms than with a hun-



long, when they should be cut and planted in sand, either in pots, boxes, or the propagating bench; a south aspect, and temperature not above 55° by artificial heat, are very essential. As soon as the cuttings have rooted, they should be potted into two inch pots: from these they should be repotted in three weeks into three or four inch pots, and again, when well rooted, into five or six inch pots, by which time the first pinching takes place. When the plants are well established in the five or six inch pots, they should be planted in their final quarters; if in pots, those of from ten to

dred imperfect ones. Where large specimen flowers are desired, not more than from four to six flowers should be left on each plant, that this very limited number may have the benefit of the whole vigor of the plant. When standard plants are desired the way is to secure a strong shoot early in January, and leave it growing, without stopping, until it reaches the required height, when it should be pinched and treated in the same way as a bush plant. Planting out, and potting in August, may be practical, yet plants will suffer more or less by being lifted.





## WOMAN'S CORNER.

MRS. MARY L. GADDESS, EDITRESS.

This department of THE FARMER will be made of special worth to the ladies of the farmer's household. Fashions in dress, latest ideas of ornamentation, flowers, etiquette, and all subjects in which they may be interested will be fully discussed and in a chatty manner. MRS. GADDESS, the editress, a well-known writer of this city, cordially invites correspondence on matters of interest in this column and will answer any questions with pleasure.

It sometimes seems as if all the styles are intended for slightly-built people, and the world has plenty of stout folks in it, but this autumn the latter may congratulate themselves upon the change, for straight effect adds to height, and the round waists and gored skirts are especially intended for slender people; the round bodice may have the ends thrust inside skirt; or else the back only and the front have basque effect. Gored skirts do away with all fullness, save in back breadths, which are laid in pleats. Narrow stripes and plain material are very much used. When skirts are trimmed, purchase lengthwise goods but no border. Collars may turn over or be of a comfortable height, and straight, round sleeves that are moderately full over shoulders, conceal large arms better than tight ones, they also hide too thin ones,—so in every way are desirable. Darts, close together and taper at waist line; side forms are straight and reach almost to the shoulder; side gores should be placed as far back as possible; shoulder seams, short. Medici collars are worn in countless modifications on all styles of garments, but for the street straight, standing ones on dresses are more suitable.

The latest item of news from Chicago is indeed startling to housekeepers. It seems, owing to the increased duties on tin, that canned goods have advanced one-fourth cent per pound, and that is a serious matter; for city as well as country people depend largely in winter on this class of goods. But in our grandmothers' time they did without them, and we will have to look up some of the old recipes to make our regular bill of fare more appetizing.

An elegant way to serve cold roast beef is to cut in thin slices, pour cold gravy over them, a wineglass of catsup, a small piece of lemon, a little butter and flour, and put it on to simmer for an hour. Or, if you have no gravy left, put hot water and a generous lump of butter, a tiny scrap of ham, chopped fine, some parsley, and a teaspoon of finely-chopped onions; serve with mashed potatoes. Another attractive way to serve beef is to have it *raw*, chopped fine like sausage meat; season highly with pepper, salt and savory herbs; put into shape and bake till brown. We call it a French roast. The chief fault in most recipes seems to be, that (though no doubt valuable) they are evidently intended for those who keep trained cooks, and have an abundance of this world's good things to work with, and plenty of time to

devote to the concoction of elaborate dishes, but to the housekeeper with perhaps one "maid of all work," they are simply an impossibility, even had we the means to work them out, and we will endeavor in all recipes given to remember and keep this in view.

The store windows are beginning to show evidences that the holiday season is near at hand, and all sorts of materials are used by the deft fingers of the ladies. Chamois seems to be greatly in favor as foundation for all sorts of bags, cases and drapery; it comes in all colors, from delicate stone to deepest crimson, and, if you are handy with the brush, all manner of pleasant possibilities are before you, as it makes a most charming surface to work on. Corduroy is also used very much and is quite inexpensive; can be procured of good quality for seventy-five cents per yard; and for fancy pillows, upholstery, curtains, and other artistic decorations, is valuable. The earlier, of course, these things are looked after the better selection you will have.

If your flowers seem to be doing well, don't trouble them farther than to keep the soil loose and moist, and syringe leaves below and above, once or twice a week. A very pretty winter bloomer for the sitting-room window is the Cyclamen, it is very easy of cultivation, a bulbous plant, putting out a good many nearly round leaves, olive green above and marked with gray, a dull red or under side, the flowers grow on higher stems than the leaves, and are of a curiously twisted appearance, petals rose red, and are quite fragrant. It is a constant bloomer, and, if potted in good loamy soil, will repay you for the very little trouble it gives.

Hospitality is a Christian duty, and everybody can practice it if so inclined, and yet not make entertaining one's friends a burden. The expense need not be great, for a simple tea party is often more enjoyed than a grand dinner, but above all do not exert yourselves, or, as the old phrase goes, "put yourselves out too much." Arrange things before your visitors arrive, if possible, so that you can enjoy their company. Nothing so disturbs the pleasure of guests as seeing the hostess going in and out, as if all the house is upset by their presence. Avoid all appearance of haste; be calm and quiet, leaving the impression that you have gone to no trouble for them. The art of entertaining beautifully and easily can be acquired, and thus hospitality becomes more than a duty—it is a real pleasure. Don't have company manners or dishes, but let your friends share with you what God has given, and be sure they will enjoy the humblest meal in your homes with the friends who make them so generously welcome. Let this Christmas season open your hearts and homes to a simpler hospitality, and you will enjoy life more.

MRS. M. L. GADDESS.



## Markets.

THURSDAY, NOV. 20.

**Flour.**—Receipts for the week are 51541 bbls, including 33825 bbls for through shipment; City Mills, 9170 bbls; shipments coastwise, 1535 bbls. Receipts of cornmeal for the week, 190 bbls.

Winter Wheat Patent Family, 5 35a5 60; Spring Wheat Patent Family, 5 65a5 90; Baltimore Best Patent, 6 10; Baltimore Choice Patent, 5 95; Baltimore High Grade Family, 5 85; Baltimore Choice Extra, 5 60; Maryland, Virginia & Penn. Super, 3 00a3 50; Maryland, Virginia & Penn. Extra, 3 75a 4 60; Maryland, Virginia & Penn. Family, 4 75a5 25. Rye Flour, 3 60a4 25; Hominy, 3 50a3 65. Cornmeal, per 100 lbs, 1 25a1 50; Buckwheat per 100 lbs, new, 2 30a2 40.

**Wheat.**—Receipts for the week are 28343 bushels viz: 20208 Southern and 8135 Western; shipments from elevators, 9684 bushels, and stock in elevators, 96832 bushels. The present range of prices is 89a96c for Fultz and 91a96c for Longberry.

**Corn.**—Receipts for the week are 3249 bushels, viz: 1912 Southern and 1098 Western; shipments from elevators, 9749 bushels; stock in elevators, 71567 bushels. White is worth 63c and yellow 61c for prime new.

We are compelled to summarize as follows: Oats, 49a51 and 47a48. Rye, 76a77 and 62a75. Hay, 8.50a9.00, 6.00a8.00 and clover, 8.00a9.00. Butter, creamery, 22a28; lard packed, 18a25; store packed 10a18; choice creamery prints, 29a30. Jobbing about 1 cent higher. Eggs, candled 26c; choice country shipments, 25a26 and 23a24c. Poultry, young chickens live, 9a9½c; old, 8a8½c; turkeys, 8a9½c; old roosters, each 25c; ducks, puddle, per doz \$2.25a3.50; muscovy 4.00a6.00; per pound, old, 9c. Dressed turkeys, 10a12c, chickens, 8a9c, ducks, 9a10c.

### Consumption Surely Cured.

To the Editor:—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for consumption. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy free to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their Express and P. O. Address. Respectfully, T. A. Slocum, M. C., 181 Pearl St., New York.

### Electric Belt Free

To introduce it and obtain agents the undersigned firm will give away a few of their \$5.00 German Electric Belts invented by Prof. Van der Weyde. Pres. of the New York Electrical Society [U. S. Pat. 257,647] a positive cure for nervous debility, Rheumatism, Loss of Power, &c. Address Electric Agency, P. O. Box 178, Brooklyn, N.Y. Write to them to-day.

### A GIRL WORTH HAVING.

A few weeks ago I read in your paper Mr. Morehead's experience in the Plating Business, in which he cleared \$157 85 in a month; but I beat that if I am a girl. I sent as he directed and got a Plater, and cleared \$208.17 in one month. Can any of your readers beat this? You can get spoons, forks or jewelry to plate at every house. Send \$3 to W. H. Griffith & Co., Zanesville, Ohio, and they will send you a Plater, and you can make money enough in three hours to pay for it, or address them for circulars. There is plenty of work to do in both city or country; then why should any person be poor or out of employment with such an opportunity at hand. I hope my experience will help others as much as Mr. Morehead's did me. Laura B.

### IF YOUR BACK ACHES

Or you are all worn out, really good for nothing it is general debility. Try **BROWN'S IRON BITTERS.** It will cure you, and give a good appetite. Sold by all dealers in medicine.

## Maryland Farmer Farm Agency.

We will advertise and sell Farms, furnish farms to renters, renters to farm owners, at small cost, and invite our readers to use our Agency.

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At TEN o'clock, the following valuable stock: Representing the blood of WICKLIFFE, by Geo. Wukes; ADMINISTRATOR, by HAMBLETONIAN; PILOT MAMBRINO, HAPPY MEDIUM, and many others.

Among them will also be found Administrator, Jr., who after making a season in the stud, was trained some this Fall, and horsemen who have seen him say he can show a 220 gait, and believe he will make a fast horse and a campaigner. Also five daughters of Pilot Mambrino blood, that is not to be found every day for sale, and many road horses, well bred colts, and fillies. The stock is now on exhibition at the Tattersall.

The sale is peremptory, as Mr. Cochran is closing out; so do not miss it, as bargains may be expected.

We also hold regular sales every Tuesday and Friday of Horses, Carriages, Harness, &c., and have on hand at all times for private sale, Horses, Carriages, Harness, &c., of the best styles and description. Mr. FRANK HERDIC will act as Auctioneer.

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### THE HOME AS A DISTRIBUTING CENTER.

The beauty of a fountain is its overflow. The good it does outside of itself it does by means of its overflow. Deep down, out of sight, is the cool, clear pool from which the sparkling jets arise, but the world sees and finds refreshment in the overflowing streams.

The cultivated Christian home of these later times is something almost unique in its beauty. Its possibilities for good grow greater with every passing decade, and with every enlargement of the application of Christian principles. As the family is the unit in the Church as well as in the State, it is to thoroughly good and righteous family life that the Church must look for its greatest element of strength. That family life is strongest which regards itself, not exclusively in the individuals of which it is made up, but which looks at itself in its solidarity, in its wholeness, in its unbroken oneness. It is not, however, so particularly of what the family is in itself and for itself that we now speak as of what the home may be and should be for others, outside itself.

Every home might doubtless ask itself with profit whether from its deep inner life an overflow richer in quality and in quantity, and streams of life and refreshment steadier in their outgoing to a greater number all about it, are not possible, and for all reasons desirable.

As the fountain collects its waters from many a trickling rill, from the welling up of many underground veins of moisture, threading their way through the great rock-layers, from a thousand seen and unseen sources, so the home of to-day has poured into it numberless contributions from a thousand sources of knowledge, of education, of thought, of art, of culture, of religion,—never-ending streams of supply, which should pour out again in more beautiful and beneficial forms than those in which they entered them, even as the lovely jets of the fountain rise in arcs of finished beauty and fall in vitalizing showers. Indeed, without this constant outgoing we should sometimes feel that our homes were over-full,—that we could not assimilate all that we so increasingly receive. The relief to this plethora will come by distributing our fullness to homes where there is a scarcity.—*Sunday School Times.*

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TO THE BUSINESS HOUSES OF BALTIMORE.

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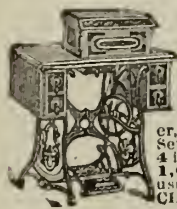
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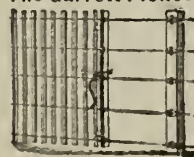
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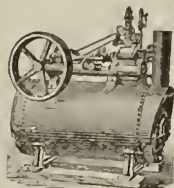
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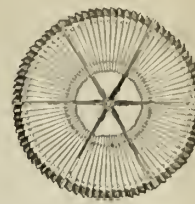
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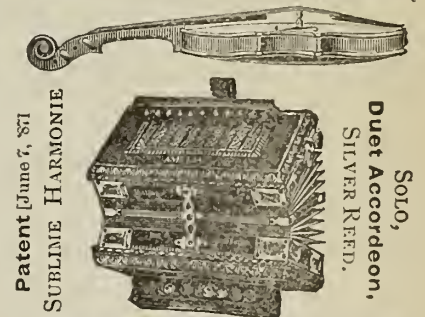
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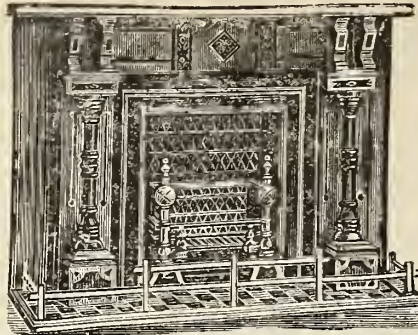
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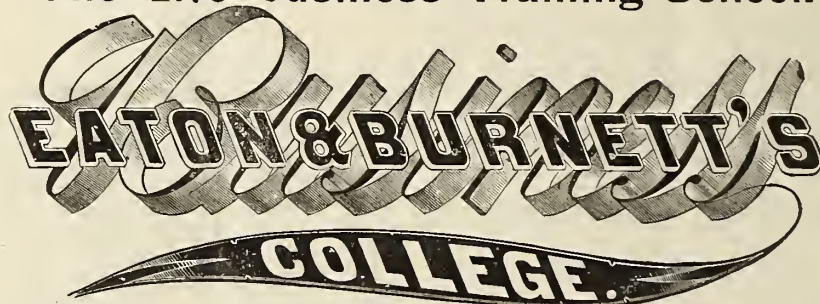
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